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00862.023234.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
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FUMITAKA GOTO, et al.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2853
Application No.: 10/662,361)	
	:	
Filed: September 16 , 2003)	
	:	
For: IMAGE PROCESSING)	
APPARATUS AND METHOD	:	
THEREOF)	August 13, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the documents (4) to (7) is enclosed.

- (1) U.S. Publication No. 2001-0013953
- (2) U.S. Publication No. 2002-0063898
- (3) U.S. Publication No. 2003-0227648
- (4) Japan 2000-013625
- (5) Japan 2001-186365
- (6) Japan 10-200751
- (7) Japan 3161427

Documents (2) and (3) have a common inventor with, and are commonly assigned with, the subject application.

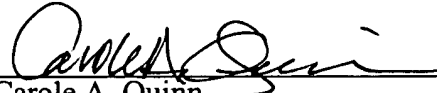
Documents (4), (5) and (6) were cited in the specification at page 2, and document (7) was cited in the specification at page 3. These documents are believed to be pertinent for the reasons noted in the specification. English-language abstracts for documents (4), (5), (6) and 7 are enclosed. In this regard, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001-0013953 is believed to be the English-language equivalent of Japan 2001-186365.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.023234.	APPLICATION NO. 10/662,361
		APPLICANT FUMITAKA GOTO, et al.	
		FILING DATE September 16, 2003	GROUP 2853

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2001-0013953	08/16/01	Akihiko Uekusa, et al.	358	444	
	2002-0063898	05/30/02	Fumihito Goto, et al.	358	3.01	
	2003-0227648	12/11/03	Oshima, et al.	358	1.15	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	2000-13625	01/14/00	Japan			Abstract
	2001-186365	07/06/01	Japan			Abstract
	10-200751	07/31/98	Japan			Abstract
	3161427	02/23/01	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.